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SECURITY INFORMATION

Subject: Popularity Mufti in Jordan Report No: NJA-511

Date of Information: 9-22 December 1953

Place Acquired: Jerusalem

Date Acquired: 15 & 26 December 1953

Evaluation: C-3

Date of Report: 27 December 1953

Source: ☐ ☐

Ex-Gand Mufti,

1. Haj Amin al-Husayni still enjoys considerable respect among the large group of refugees in Jordan who have lost confidence in their leaders and in the Arab Governments.
2. ^{Al-Husayni's} Haj Amin's visit to Damascus during the Islamic Congress was intended to assure Jordan's refugees that he has not abandoned his interest in them and that he still intends to carry out his pledge to assist the Palestinians to return to their homes.
3. ^{Ex-Gand} The Mufti's followers in Jordan have been recently informed by the Arab Higher Committee ^(AHC) that the Mufti approves the decisions of the recent Islamic Congress. The AHC also instructed its supporters in Jordan to try to win public support for the proposal to ^{remove} the Jordan National Guard out from under the Arab Legion's supervision and place it under the control of the ^{West Bank} Palestinians residing in the West Bank.

Field Comment:

1. ^{Ex-Gand} The Mufti's popularity among the refugees was illustrated when an interview with the Mufti recently appeared in Al Hayat. Copies of Al Hayat sold at ten times their regular price in the West Bank, and scores of refugees who could not afford to buy a paper lined up in front of news stands to read the article.

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